

CITY OF LONG BEACH  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE  
COMMISSION ON YOUTH AND CHILDREN  
MINUTES  
March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2004

I. CALL TO ORDER

Rebecca Turrentine, Chair, called the meeting of the Commission on Youth and Children to order at 5:05 p.m., in the large conference room at the Parks, Recreation and Marine Senior Center. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

Present:

Pierre Batton, Vice-Chair	Marc Rothenberg
Elijah Kemp-Bowdre	Mary Soth
Sothea Chhay	Chanel Suares
Gregory Corbin	Chelsii Summerville
Dara Din	Jennifer To
Kate Levinstein	Rebecca Turrentine, Chair
Jeanetta McAlpin	Christopher Young
Jon Meyer	
Lauren Perry	
Alexis Peterson	
Jessica Quintana	

Absent:

Annie Ung

Staff:

Cynthia Fogg, Superintendent, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine  
Andrew Romero, Youth Specialist, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine  
Carmina Gonzalez, Clerk, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine  
*Phil T. Hester, Director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine*

Guests:

Bryan Rogers, Community Development Department, Workforce Development Bureau  
Darick Simpson, Chair, Workforce Development Board Youth Council

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**It was moved by Commissioner Meyer and seconded by Commissioner Soth to approve the February 25, 2004 Commission on Youth and Children minutes. The motion carried unanimously.**

III. COMMENTS (PUBLIC)

Raymond Chavarria, member of the City of Long Beach Parks and Recreation Commission and Field Deputy for Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald, stated that on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Commission he applauds the appointments to the CYC and the work that the CYC is doing. He stated that Congresswoman Millender-McDonald is concerned about youth and does have a Youth Congressional Council for the 37<sup>th</sup> District. He also stated that she will be

opening a field office in Long Beach next month. He distributed a pamphlet from the congresswoman's office called "Guide to Constituent Services" and stated that it lists some of the things that the Congresswoman is doing concerning youth. He stated that he is appointed to work with the Youth Congressional Council and will give the Congresswoman information about the CYC. He announced that the City of Carson's Youth Commission is holding a Conference on May 29<sup>th</sup> and he will forward the detailed information on this event to the CYC staff.

Ana Linsef of the American Red Cross Youth and Young Adult Services announced an event happening on April 30<sup>th</sup> at Silverado Park called Project Band Aid. She stated that the purpose of the event is to create awareness about youth violence in the community. She stated that they hope not only to provide a fun and entertaining forum for youth to come and hear about an important issue, but also to create an educational outlet where youth can learn about the many after-school programs and extra-curricular activities that serve as alternatives to violence. She also stated that this is a youth-run event where youth have formed the committees, are getting the bands, and are fundraising, and she is just here as a representative for them. Commissioner Chhay will be talking more about this event later in the meeting.

Summer Hansen announced Children's Day is on May 1, 2004 and the theme is "What are you going to do to make our world a better place?" She stated that she encourages the entire community to do something in honor of Children's Day and she distributed a flier listing ways to participate.

#### IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO THE COMMISSION

Form 700 and ID Cards Update:

Cynthia Fogg stated that the Form 700 is due to the City Clerk's office by the end of the week and those who have not submitted their form should get it to the Youth Services office as soon as possible. Andrew Romero updated the commissioners on the status of their ID cards.

Youth Services Website [www.longbeachyouth.org](http://www.longbeachyouth.org):

Cynthia Fogg announced that the CYC minutes and agendas are now posted on the Youth Services Website, as well as pictures of the commissioners and contact information.

Youth Services NETWORK Activities

- Executive Planning Committee  
Cynthia Fogg stated that the Executive Planning Committee (EPC) met at the end of February. Commissioner Turrentine was introduced, and the group was informed that she would sit as a member of the EPC representing the CYC.
- Youth Services NETWORK  
Ms. Fogg stated that the Youth Services NETWORK met last week; the topic was Literacy in Action and there were presentations from LBUSD, City of Long Beach Library, and the Freedom Writers.

- Afterschool Advocacy Partnership (ASAP)  
Ms. Fogg stated that ASAP met last month and has been working diligently to submit the grant to the State Department of Education for 21<sup>st</sup> Century funding. Awardees will be announced in May. She also stated that between now and May several City and LBUSD School Board representatives are planning to take a trip to Sacramento to advocate on behalf of the grant.
- Mentor Connection  
Ms. Fogg stated that the Mentor Connection met early last month and focused on a teleconference call with the Governor's Mentoring Partnership.
- Long Beach Youth Fund  
Andrew Romero reported that a total of \$14,000 in grant money was awarded and 11 projects funded. He stated that the Youth Fund met two weeks ago where all of the awardees came together with the Youth Board Members. Each Board Member has been assigned a project and will see it through completion.

#### Youth Gang & Violence Task Force

Ms. Fogg stated that the resource team met last week and the list of potential task force members reached forty, including CYC commissioners Marc Rothenberg and Elijah Bowdre. They should be hearing from the Mayor soon, inviting them to sit on the task force. She also stated that the Resource Team will meet next month with a facilitator to talk about moving this project forward.

#### Other Youth and Children's Initiatives

Ms. Fogg announced that the California League of Cities will be holding their Annual Conference here in Long Beach in September, and she has suggested that the CYC sponsor a youth event for the conference. She stated that she will have more information at the next CYC meeting.

#### Video—"Listen to Youth"

Ms. Fogg stated that the Executive Committee saw this video and thought it would be useful to the group and the work that they are doing. Commissioner Turrentine stated that this video is available and may be useful in the formation of youth councils. The video was viewed, and response was positive.

## V. REPORTS

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Commissioner Turrentine reported on the last meeting of the Executive Committee. She stated that the meeting focused on the agenda for March, and she shared with them that she heard back from the Redevelopment Board about the letter that she sent requesting that they consider including youth in a current study on the process of redevelopment in the City of Long Beach. She stated that they are going to hold a "study session" largely as a result of the input that she gave them. She also stated that she shared with the Executive Committee her conversation with Alan Arkatov,

Chair of the LA Commission for Children, Youth and their Families. His strongest message to her was focus, because when dealing with youth issues in a large city like the City of Long Beach, it is extremely easy to be distracted by projects that really don't impact big picture, long-range effects on youth in our city. He also said there should be three primary areas of focus: data collection, budget and policy.

04-05 Parliamentarian

Commissioner Turrentine stated that it is recommended by the Executive Committee to elect Commissioner Rothenberg as the Commission Parliamentarian.

**It was moved by Commissioner Corbin and seconded by Commissioner Suares to elect Commissioner Rothenberg as the CYC Parliamentarian. The motion carried unanimously.**

04-06 Agenda Action Item Key and Tracking System

Commissioner Turrentine stated that it is recommended by the Executive Committee to Adopt the *Action Item Key* and direct staff to organize and track action items according to the key.

**It was moved by Commissioner Soth and seconded by Commissioner Young to adopt the Action Item Key and to direct staff to organize and track action items according to the key.**

SCORECARD COMMITTEE

Commissioner Corbin reported on the last meeting of the Scorecard Committee in which they decided to meet on the first Wednesday of every month and staff will prepare minutes. He also stated that they reviewed how they would oversee the implementation of a scorecard and that Cynthia Fogg suggested that the focus be on data collection to help identify outcome areas and allocation of City dollars. Commissioner Corbin stated that staff has drafted a letter to Robert C. Maxson, California State University of Long Beach, President, requesting assistance on the City of Long Beach scorecard project, and a letter to Yolie Flores Aguilar, Executive Director, Los Angeles Children's Planning Council, requesting Long Beach specific data.

**It was moved by Commissioner Young and seconded by Commissioner To to place the letters to Robert C. Maxson and Yolie Flores Aguilar on the agenda for this meeting of March 24, 2004. The motion carried unanimously.**

Copies of the draft letters were provided to all commissioners for review.

**It was moved by Commissioner Meyer and seconded by Commissioner Rothenberg to approve the letters to Robert C. Maxson and Yolie Flores Aguilar. The motion carried unanimously.**

## Standing Items

### Education and Youth Strategic Plan

Cynthia Fogg stated that the scorecard committee reviewed the goals of the Education and Youth Strategic Plan and how they overlap with the outcome areas that were adopted by the CYC, so that when they proceed to do the scorecard they can interface with the goals identified in the Strategic Plan.

### District Level Youth Advisory Council—Meeting Schedule and Report

Andrew Romero updated the group on changes that have been made to the schedule and he stated that as a consequence to the letter that was sent from the CYC a youth council for District 6 will be formed shortly. Commissioner Bowdre reported on the last District 9 DLYAC meeting in which they discussed how they have distributed the DLYAC application to middle schools and high schools and how they can increase numbers. He stated that they have begun to plan some upcoming events such as a neighborhood cleanup and how to come up with some creative ways to get youth excited about cleaning up their community. He also stated that the next meeting is on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

### Requested Reports

Bryan Rogers of the Community Development Department, Workforce Development Bureau, and Darick Simpson of the Workforce Development Board Youth Council did a presentation regarding the background of the Youth Council, summer jobs and internships offered at the City of Long Beach Youth Opportunity Center.

## VI. CORRESPONDENCE

Cynthia Fogg stated that staff will provide CYC commissioners on a monthly basis with copies of incoming or outgoing correspondence. She stated that correspondence can be filed in the CYC commissioner binders to keep on hand in the case that a commissioner receive a call and have to refer to a letter that went out.

Incoming

None

Outgoing

Copies of all outgoing correspondence from the CYC were distributed to Commissioners.

## VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

## VIII. NEW BUSINESS

### 04-07 CYC and City Council Relations

It was the staff recommendation to direct the CYC Executive Committee to act as legislative liaison to establish regular communication with the Mayor (or her assignee) and City Council members (or their assignees) and other elected officials as required, and request that staff work with the Executive Committee to identify proper procedures and to interact with elected officials.

**It was moved by Commissioner To and seconded by Commissioner Chhay to direct the CYC Executive Committee to act as legislative liaison to establish regular communication with the Mayor (or her assignee) and City Council members (or their assignees) and other elected officials as required, and request that staff work with the Executive Committee to identify proper procedures and to interact with elected officials. The motion carried unanimously.**

### 04-08 Voice Your Choice Survey and Three-year Financial Strategic Plan

It was the staff recommendation to receive and file the report and request a staff report by the Office of the City Manager regarding the City's Three-year Financial Strategic Plan's impact on youth and children's services, and plans for future citizen surveys/input.

**It was moved by Commissioner Soth and seconded by Commissioner Quintana to receive and file the report and request a staff report by the Office of the City Manager regarding the City's Three-year Financial Strategic Plan's impact on youth and children's services, and plans for future citizen surveys/input. The motion carried unanimously.**

## IX. COMMENTS

### • STAFF

Andrew Romero stated that some of the commissioner's business cards came back with mistakes and are being re-printed; however if staff missed any, please let staff know so that those can be re-printed as well.

### • COMMISSION

Commissioner Chhay announced that the youth volunteers of the American Red Cross, Greater Long Beach Chapter are hosting an event called Project Band Aid, a non-violence themed concert hosted, performed and directed by youth. He stated that the event will take place on April 30, 2004 from 5:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. inside the community center at Silverado Park. He stated that youth organizations are invited to provide informational booths about gang prevention, violence, and any after-school programs they may have.

Commissioner Kemp-Bowdre announced that as the International Ambassador for Long Beach Poly High School one of his duties is to complete a "legacy project." He stated that to fulfill that duty he is hosting a Leadership Forum for youth with formal and informal leaders to talk about the roots of the problems that are creating the recent violence at some of the local high schools. He stated that the event will take place on March 31, 2004 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at Poly High School's career center, and he wanted to make the CYC aware of this project in hopes it will serve as a prototype for a drug awareness event in the future.

Commissioner McAlpin announced the Annual Aids Walk sponsored by Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald will take place on April 24, 2004 at Dominguez University.

Cynthia Fogg stated that when announcing events she recommends that the location/district be stated so that the CYC Commissioner from that district can attend the event and this way there will be CYC representation at events in different districts. She also stated that commissioners could spread out more and not feel overwhelmed about having to attend all events. Commissioner Peterson asked if there was a list of CYC commissioners indicating the district in which they reside. Cynthia Fogg stated that staff will provide that list at the next CYC meeting.

Commissioner Quintana announced that Centro CHA is hosting a citizenship workshop at the Youth Opportunity Center on Saturday, March 27, 2004 for youth and their families, where they will go through the process of completing INS forms.

X. NEXT MEETING

Commissioner Turrentine announced that the next CYC meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 28, at 5:00 p.m. at the Parks, Recreation and Marine Senior Center and she stated that she will be out of the State and not able to attend but Commissioner Batton will Chair that meeting.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

**It was moved by Commissioner Chhay and seconded by Commissioner Batton to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.**

*This information is available in an alternative format  
by request to Jane Grobaty at (562) 570-3232.*

*The City of Long Beach intends to provide reasonable accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If a special accommodation is desired, please call Carmina Gonzalez 48 hours prior to the meeting, at (562) 570-3538.*